

EMERGENCY ACT ENFORCEMENT DAILY REPORT

Update 6 - February 22, 2022

Highlights	February 21: Law enforcement operations continue in the Ottawa secured area, most streets are clear of vehicles and protesters. Current enforcement totals include roughly 200 arrests, close to 400 charges laid on 110 individuals, 115 towed vehicles, 22 license plate seizures, and 11 suspensions of vehicle operator registration. Financial Measures resulted in approximately 241 financial products and \$7.8M frozen, 57 entities reported to financial institutions, and 253 Bitcoin addresses shared with virtual currency exchangers with an approximate value of \$3M.
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This daily Situation Report provides a strategic overview of the concrete enforcement actions taken by the Government of Canada pursuant to the authorities granted under the *Emergency Act* and associated Orders in Council (Information current as of **21 February, 20:00hrs**).

Enforcement Actions

Releasable information:

- **Ottawa Police Services (OPS)**, supported by Federal and Provincial Police Services from across the country, continue to work to secure the downtown area, including the use of checkpoints at various locations in Ottawa. There continues to be a few pockets of protests outside of the Secured Area but these are small groups with no vehicles.
- **OPS** indicates that **196** protesters have been arrested to date, of those, **110** were charged with a total of 389 Criminal Code offences. This includes charges against four key protest organizers. Police investigations are ongoing.
- **One** of the lead organizers was denied bail today, as the Ontario Superior Court Judge determined there was a substantial likelihood the accused would reoffend if released.
- **OPS's** additional total enforcement actions include **115** vehicles towed, 22 license plates seized, and the suspension of 11 vehicle operator registrations.
- **RCMP** and police partners report the freezing of **241** financial products, disclosure of 57 entities, and provision of 253 Bitcoin addresses with virtual currency exchangers. (Comment: These numbers reflect the most recent data received from the RCMP and as such differ from those released publicly on February 19th).
- **The RCMP** continue to post updates on their blockades web site ([Blockades news - blockade.rcmp.ca](https://blockades.rcmp.ca)). RCMP will be regularly updating public numbers there.
- The **Department of Finance** advises the implementation of finance-related measures under the *Emergency Economic Measures Order* has resulted in Financial Services providers freezing over **200** products and approximately **\$7.8M**.
- **FINTRAC** has received **18** pre-registration forms, **26** inquiries on the impact of the proclamation, and notices from **10** Money Service Businesses interested in adding provision of payment services to existing registration.

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Information provided by the RCMP and other authorities may include sensitive operational details. In order to protect the integrity of police operations, this information should not be shared, in whole or in part, without the prior consent of the RCMP and other originating authorities.

NOT FOR RELEASE:

- The **RCMP** has reported \$3,018,000 total in Crypto currency to virtual currency exchangers including \$2.4M in 24 Crypto accounts and \$618K in 103 Bitcoin addresses.
- **The Department of Finance** reports the value of financial products frozen has increased by approximately **\$300K** since last reported.
- The **RCMP** have gone back to financial institutions to advise of any designated entities it no longer believes are engaged in prohibited conduct or activities, asking for those accounts to be released.

Supporting Activities

- The **Unified Command** in control of policing in Ottawa (OPS, OPP, RCMP) have reopened the Byward Market and full service has resumed on O-Train Line 1 from Tunney's Pasture to Blair station.
- **OPS** indicates the Coventry Road location remains clear of protesters and a police presence continues to prevent a reoccurrence.
- The **RCMP** reports that dozens of convoy supporters are grouped on private property in Embrun, Arnprior and Vankleek Hill. RCMP liaison officers are engaged with potential protesters and encouraging them to remain lawful.
- The **PSPC** continues to support the cleanup of secured areas by the city of Ottawa.
- The **CBSA** indicates all POEs are open and no operational impacts have been reported. Enhanced vigilance and monitoring of protesters continue near a number of Ports of Entry (POE) nationally, particularly in British Columbia (Pacific Highway, Paterson), Alberta (Coutts), and Saskatchewan (Northgate).
- **RCMP** presence continues at POEs and operations include some patrols and checkpoints to limit unlawful access to POEs at Pacific Highway (BC), North Portal (SK), and St. Stephen (NB).
- **Police of Jurisdiction** are decreasing presence at POEs where there is no ongoing protest nearby.
- **Transport Canada** continues to support law enforcement with 1 NOTAMs currently in effect for Ottawa/Gatineau (12 total since Jan. 20). Investigations are ongoing into a number of observed NOTAM violations.

Communications

Key Messages for Ministers (February 21, 2022):

- For three weeks, blockades illegally disrupted the life of Canadians, harming our economy, and endangering public safety.
- We want to thank police officers from all law enforcement agencies who joined the operations and successfully worked on resolving situations across the country and keeping communities safe.
- We invoked the Emergencies Act to supplement Provincial and Territorial authorities to address the blockades and occupation to keep Canadians safe, protect people's jobs, and restore confidence in our institutions.
- The Act has strengthened and supported the work by the police. Law enforcement agencies relied on it to set up a secured area in downtown Ottawa, to prevent foreign money from funding illegal blockades, and to make sure our borders remain open.
- The Emergencies Act is not something that we undertake lightly and we do not want to use it for a single moment longer than necessary.
- We are pleased with the progress that has been made and we are committed to ending this emergency at the earliest opportunity.
- Over the past days, we have seen deliberate and professional enforcement action here in Ottawa. There have now been close to 200 arrests, 389 criminal charges laid and a total of 76 vehicles towed. The job is not done yet and work is expected to continue to bring an end to illegal blockades and occupations.
- We have also seen progress in implementing finance-related measures under the Emergency Economic Measures Order. Under the powers of the Act, financial Services providers have frozen at least 76 accounts containing approximately \$3.2 million. Additionally, FINTRAC's pre-registration process is ongoing as it responds to several dozen inquiries received from small and medium-sized banks on the impact of the Emergencies Act orders.
- We are calling on everyone to not jeopardize public peace or endanger yourselves or others by participating in purposefully illegal activities. There will be consequences for all criminal behavior related to the ongoing situations in Ottawa and across the country.
- As the situation is still fragile, we have to remain vigilant and continue to keep each other safe. More than ever, now is the time to work together.

Law Enforcement Actions under the Economic Emergency Measure Order (Emergencies Act)

RCMP

February 21, 2022

- Over the last three weeks, police services across the country have been responding to unprecedented and unlawful demonstrations, protests, occupations, and acts of civil disobedience. Federal and provincial legislation provides significant authorities and powers to police services to maintain the rule of law, however, the illegal blockades and unlawful protests in Ottawa and across the country have presented unique challenges which have compelled a unique response.
- The RCMP echoes policing partners in supporting the fundamental objectives of the invocation of the *Emergencies Act*, *Emergency Measures Regulations* and *Emergency Economic Measures Order*, while still supporting the fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed to all Canadians.
- As the RCMP and law enforcement partners have worked through the operation in Ottawa, we have seen the benefits of the *Emergencies Act*. Provisions of the Act have granted us the authorities necessary to maintain the perimeter, restrict travel and ensure that we can continue to stop financial support and other assistance for this unlawful protest.
- Outside of Ottawa, the most immediate impact of the *Emergencies Act* has been on public messaging and communication. We believe that the *Emergencies Act* has been a deterrent for at least some protest groups in how they conduct themselves. The Act has been an additional tool for our Public Liaison Officers who are engaging with groups to seek to minimize disruptions and ensure that protests remain lawful.
- The *Emergencies Act* has also allowed law enforcement and monitoring agencies to work more closely with Canadian financial institutions; enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement conducting investigations. While it remains the responsibility of the financial institutions to make the decision of freezing accounts, the RCMP is diligently working with our law enforcement and federal partners to disclose relevant information of individuals and companies suspected of involvement in illegal acts.
- So far, this effort has culminated in the freezing of 208 financial products; the disclosure of 57 entities; the addresses of 253 Bitcoin shared with virtual currency exchangers; and, the proactive freezing of the account of a payment processor for a value of \$3.8M by a financial institution.
(*Comment: These numbers reflect release timing and have since been updated by RCMP as listed above).
- We continue to work at collecting relevant information on persons, vehicles and companies, and remain in daily communication with the financial institutions to assist them.
- The RCMP is proud of the professional and collaborative response of Canadian police agencies, including the thousands of RCMP employees – from those on the front lines to those supporting behind the scenes – their collective efforts are working to bring a successful resolution to this unprecedented challenge.